IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Pryor et al.	Group:	2764
Serial No.:	08/791,724	Paper No.:	7
Filed:	01/29/97	Examiner:	Kemper, M
For:	Method of Predicting a Change in an Economy		

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action of January 19, 1999, and submit the following in complete response thereto, and request reconsideration of the Claims presented.

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 10-12. Please add Claims 16-19.

Claim 10 (amended). A method of using a multiprocessor computer to predict a change in an economy, where the economy has a plurality of decision makers, comprising the steps of:

    a)   representing the plurality of decision makers by a plurality of agents, where each agent has internal state and decision rules and can accept input messages from other agents and generate output messages for other agents;

    b)   assigning each agent to at least one processor in the multiprocessor computer;

    c)   establishing initial values for at least part of each agent's internal state;

    d)   establishing initial input messages for each agent;

    e)   determining a change in the economy by, on each [processing element] processor, determining new values for the internal state of each agent assigned to the [processing